UNITED NATIONS

ST

Secretariat

ST/IC/1991/26
12 April 1991

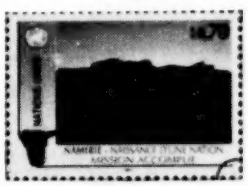
INFORMATION CIRCULAR

To: Members of delegations and staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for General Services

Subject: FIRST DAY OF ISSUE
"NAMIBIA - A NEW NATION, A TRUST FULFILLED" STAMPS
AND DEFINITIVE STAMPS

1. The United Nations Postal Administration (UNPA) will issue the second set of commemorative stamps for 1991 on Friday, 10 May. The set of six stamps will celebrate the birth of a new nation, Namibia. This achievement of independence culminated shortly after midnight on 21 March 1990, when the flag of South Africa was lowered and the flag of Namibia was triumphantly raised. Starting with the League of Nations, Namibian independence reached fulfilment with the largest and most complex operation the United Nations has ever put into the field - the United Nations Transition and Assistance Group (UNTAG). The issue, adapted as stamps by Rocco J. Callari and Robert Stein (United Nations Secretariat) from photographs by John Isaac (United Nations Secretariat), depicts the beautiful Namibian scenery with its vastly differing



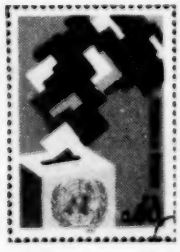
geographical features. The stamps are the fifth in the "Namibia" series which was started in 1973 to focus attention to the wish of the Namibian people for freedom and independence. They will be printed by Heraclio Fournier, S.A., Spain, using an offset lithography process.

Denominations and quantities:	30 cents	800 000
	50 cents	700 000
	F.s. 0,70	700 000
	F.s. 0,90	700 000
	S 6	900 000
	S 9.50	900 000
Size:	36 mm x 26 mm	
Perforation:	13 3/4	

(United States equivalents - F.s. 0,70: 53 cents; F.s. 0,90: 68 cents; S 6: 55 cents; S 9.50: 88 cents - subject to exchange rate fluctuation.)

2. The sheets of 50 stamps will be vertical.

3. Four definitive stamps will also be issued on 10 May 1991, in denominations of $2.00, F.s. 0,80, F.s. 1,50 and S 20. The $2.00 design, adapted as stamp by Rocco J. Callari and Robert Stein (United States) from a photograph by W. Unmesh (United Nations Secretariat), was engraved by Czeslaw Slania (Sweden) and will be printed by the Government Printing Bureau (Japan). The F.s. 0,80 stamp was designed by Ran Banda Mawilmada (Sri Lanka). The F.s. 1,50 stamp was designed by Maurice Gouju (France). The S 20 stamp was designed by Marina Langer-Rosa (Germany). These three stamps will be printed by The House of Questa (United Kingdom), using an offset lithography process.



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Denominations and initial quantities:	$2.00	2 000 000
	F.s. 0,80	1 600 000
	F.s. 1,50	1 600 000
	S 20	1 750 000
Sizes: $2.00 F.s. 0,80, F.s. 1,50 and S 20	25.5 mm x 36 mm	
	25.73 mm x 35.96 mm	
Perforations: $2.00 F.s. 0,80, F.s. 1,50 and S 20	13 1/2	
	14	

(United States equivalents - F.s. 0,80: 61 cents; F.s. 1,50: $1.13; S 20: $1.85 - subject to exchange rate fluctuation.)

4. The sheets of 50 stamps each will be horizontal.

5. For the convenience of collectors, UNPA at Headquarters will provide prepared and cancelled New York, Geneva and Vienna first-day covers on the UNPA official first-day cachet ONLY.

6. Starting with this issue UNPA announces a change in its sales policy in regard to marginal inscription (MI) blocks for both commemorative and definitive stamp issues:

(a) For commemorative stamp issues the minimum purchase requirement to obtain a marginal inscription block will be reduced from the current 10 stamps to 6 stamps.

(b) For definitive stamp issues the minimum purchase requirement to obtain a marginal block will be four, regardless of denomination.

(c) Customers who currently receive MI blocks of 10 stamps on their standing orders will continue to do so unless they specifically request a change in their requirements. The new Customer Deposit Account form as well as new issue order forms will reflect these changes. Both forms are available at the UNPA sales counter located in the General Assembly concourse.

7. Members of delegations and the staff may obtain the new stamps and first-day cancellations on Friday, 10 May, at the following locations:

(a) The UNPA sales counter in the concourse of the General Assembly Building: 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.;

(b) Counter at the north end of the Secretariat lobby from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.